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May 22, 1991

By Telefax No. +44-071-242-3290
(Confirmation Copy By Air Mail)

Mr. John H. Bass
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RECEIVED
PHILIP MORRIS MANUFACTURING CORP.
TELEFAX SECTION

MAY 28 1991

PM-1321 Philippines
Your File: 30590

NOTED

Dear John:

This is in response to your 9th April 1991 letter.

Regarding the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed in the U.S. case on October 29, 1990, the Examiner did not consider the two French patents 2,338,559 and 2,084,043 during prosecution. The other references identified on the EPO Search Report had previously been considered or had been considered through a corresponding application. In our view, the French references do not present or raise a significant question of validity regarding the allowed claims. Therefore, we did not pursue having the U.S. Examiner consider them.

The corresponding U.S. Patent No. 4,981,522, copy enclosed, is in the following International Classes: A24D 1/00; A24D 1/18.

Regarding the field of art or science examined, set forth below are the U.S. class and subclasses searched by the U.S. Examiner and the corresponding titles provided by the U.S. Patent Office's Index to Classifications:

2026417220

FISH & NEAVE

TO Mr. John H. Bass

FOLIO 2

Class 131	Tobacco
subclass 359	Tobacco or Tobacco Substitute Product or Component Thereof; Compositions, e.g., smoking or chewing mixture or medium; tobacco substitute, i.e., nontobacco.
subclass 369	Method Or Apparatus For Making Tobacco Substitute.
subclass 194	Tobacco User's Appliance; Device used for smoking; heat exchanging and/or insulating.
subclass 370	Method Or Apparatus For Making Reconstituted Tobacco.
subclass 372	Method Or Apparatus For Making Reconstituted Tobacco; slurry.
subclass 375	Method Or Apparatus For Making Reconstituted Tobacco; extrusion.
subclass 353	Tobacco or Tobacco Substitute Product Or Component Part Thereof; reconstituted tobacco.
subclass 355	Tobacco or Tobacco Substitute Product Or Component Part Thereof; reconstituted tobacco; Tobacco particle bonded by nontobacco adhesive.

2026417271

FISH & NEAVE

to Mr. John H. Bass

FOLIO 3

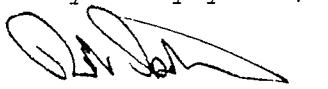
subclass 356

Tobacco or Tobacco
Substitute Product Or
Component Part Thereof;
reconstituted tobacco;
having tobacco extracts
or tobacco paste.

Please let me know if you need any additional
information.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,


Robert M. Isackson

RMI/grl
Enclosure

cc: Ms. Beverly A. Monroe - w/encl.

2026417272